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On 5/5/07  
By Angela Loding

PATENT  
Attorney Docket No.: S-09-6

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of: Lewis Sharps et al.

Application No.: 10/613,115

Filing Date: July 3, 2003

For: METHODS FOR REPAIRING  
DAMAGED INTERVERTEBRAL DISCS

Examiner: Lee S. Cohen

Art Unit: 3739

Confirmation No.: 4213

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT UNDER  
37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98**

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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants wish to call the attention of the Examiner to the references that are listed on the attached PTO form 1449.

It is respectfully requested that the cited information be considered during the prosecution of this application, and the references be made of record therein and appear among the "references cited" on any patent to issue there from.

These citations do not constitute an admission that the references are relevant or material to the claims.

This IDS is being filed with a Request for Continued Examination and accordingly, Applicants believe that no fee is necessary however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees necessary or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0359 of ArthroCare Corporation in order to effectuate this filing.

If there are any matters concerning this Application that may be cleared up in a telephone conversation, please contact Applicants' attorney at 512.391.3961.

Respectfully submitted  
Attorney for Applicants,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Brian E. Szymczak  
Reg. No. 47,120

3/5/2007  
Date

SEND CORRESPONDENCE TO:  
ARTHROCARE CORPORATION  
CUSTOMER NO. **21394**  
512.391.3961  
512.391.3901 (fax)

PTO-1449		Application No.	Applicant(s)		
<b>Information Disclosure Citation in an Application</b>		10/613,115	Lewis Sharps et al.		
		Docket Number S-09-6	Group Art Unit: 3739	Filing Date July 3, 2003	

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
A.	4161950	7/24/1979	Cowan et al.	606	48	8/1/1975
B.	4449926	5/22/1984	Weiss	433	32	11/23/1981
C.	5290273	3/1/1994	Ton	606	9	5/25/1993
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E.	5626136	5/6/1997	Webster, Jr.	600	373	6/7/1995
F.	5762629	6/9/1998	Kambin	604	164,11	5/2/1996
G.	5766252	6/16/1998	Henry et al.	623	17,16	1/24/1995
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K.	5925042	7/20/1999	Gough et al.	606	41	11/3/1997
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O.	6045532	4/4/2000	Eggers et al.	604	114	8/7/1998
P.	6086584	7/11/2000	Miller et al.	606	41	9/10/1996
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S.	6264650	7/24/2001	Hovda et al.	606	32	5/21/1999
T.	6264650	7/24/2001	Underwood et al.	606	32	7/1/1999
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X.	6464695	10/15/2002	Hovda et al.	606	32	1/19/2001
Y.	6468270	10/22/2002	Hovda et al.	606	32	9/19/2000
Z.	6497704	12/24/2002	Ein-Gal	606	41	4/4/2001

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DATE CONSIDERED

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PTO-1449 <b>Information Disclosure Citation In an Application</b>			Application No. <b>10/613,115</b>	Applicant(s) <b>Lewis Sharps et al.</b>		
			Docket Number <b>S-09-6</b>	Group Art Unit <b>3739</b>	Filing Date <b>July 3, 2003</b>	
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>						
	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
A.	6558390	5/6/2003	Cragg	606	80	2/13/2001
B.	6562033	5/13/2003	Shah et al.	606	41	4/9/2001
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J.	6726684	4/27/2004	Wołoszko et al.	606	32	11/8/2000
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L.	6758846	7/6/2004	Goble et al.	606	41	2/2/2001
M.	6772012	8/3/2004	Ricart et al.	607	99	5/3/2001
N.	6827716	12/7/2004	Ryan et al.	606	41	9/30/2002
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V.	2002/0082698	6/27/2002	Parenteau et al.	623	17.16	9/18/2001
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Z.	2006/0095026	5/4/2006	Ricart et al.	606	32	9/19/2005
AA.	2007/0010809	1/11/2007	Hovda et al.	606	41	8/2/2006
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			Filing Date July 3, 2003

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES    NO
A.	94/26228	11/24/1994	WO	A61B	17/00	X
B.	95/05781	3/2/1995	WO	A61B	17/00	X
C.	95/05867	3/2/1995	WO	A61B	17/00	X
D.	98/23449	8/8/1996	WO	A61B	17/00	X
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H.	97/24992	7/17/1997	WO	A61B	18/12	X
I.	98/00070	1/8/1996	WO	A61B	18/14	X
J.	98/01087	1/15/1996	WO	A61F	01/03	X
K.	98/14131	4/9/1996	WO	A61B	18/00	X
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M.	01/82813	11/8/2001	WO	A61B	18/14	X
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P.	515 867	12/2/1992	EP	A61B	17/36	X
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	DOCUMENT (Including Author, Title, Source, and Pertinent Pages)	DATE
T.	Buchelt, et al., "Excimer Laser Ablation of Fibrocartilage: An In Vitro and In Vivo Study", Lasers in Surgery and Medicine, Vol. 11, pgs. 271-279	1991
U.	Costello et al., "Nd: YAG Laser Ablation of the Prostate as a Treatment for Benign Prostatic Hypertrophy", Lasers in Surgery and Medicine, Vol. 12, pages 121-124	1992
V.	Rand et al., "Effect of Electrocautery on Fresh Human Articular Cartilage", J. Arthro. Surg., Vol. 1, pgs. 242-246	1985
W.	PCT International Search Report for PCT/US99/03339 (Atty Docket No. S-2PC), 1 pg	Mailed 5/14/99
X.	PCT International Search Report for PCT/US99/17821 (Atty docket no. S-4PC), 1 pg.	Mailed 10/19/99
Y.	PCT International Search Report for PCT/US00/13706 (Atty docket no. S-5PC), 1 pg.	Mailed 7/31/00
Z.	PCT International Search Report for PCT/US00/28267 (Atty docket no. S-7PC), 1 pg	Mailed 3/23/01

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	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
A.	00/10475	3/2/2000	WO	A61B	18/14	X	
B.	00/62698	10/26/2000	WO	A61B	18/14	X	
C.	99/42037	8/26/1999	WO	A61B	18/14	X	
D.	00/07507	2/17/2000	WO	A61BM	03/02	X	
E.	00/071043	11/30/2000	WO	A61B	18/14	X	
F.	01/26570	4/19/2001	WO	A61B	18/14	X	
G.	02/11635	2/14/2002	WO	A61B	18/14	X	
H.	03/024506	3/27/2003	WO	A61B	18/14	X	
I.	04/22155	3/18/2004	WO	A61B	18/18	X	
J.	05/39390	5/6/2005	WO	A61B	18/18	X	
K.	05/122938	12/29/2005	WO	A61B	18/18	X	

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	DOCUMENT (Including Author, Title, Source, and Pertinent Pages)	DATE
L.	PCT International Search Report for PCT/US01/15728 (Atty docket no. S-9PC), 1 pg.	Mailed 10/18/01
M.	PCT International Preliminary Examination Report for PCT/US01/15728 (Atty docket no. S-9-PC), 4 pgs	1/23/03
N.	PCT International Search Report for PCT/US02/29469 (Atty docket no. S-9-5PC), 1 pg.	Mailed 5/22/03
O.	PCT International Search Report for PCT/US03/27745 (Atty docket no. S-12PC), 1 pg.	Mailed 7/2/04
P.	PCT International Search Report for PCT/US05/20774 (Atty docket no. S-19-1PC) 1 pg.	Mailed 10/26/05
Q.	PCT Written Opinion of the International Searching Authority for PCT/US05/20774 (Atty docket no. S-19-1PC), 4 pgs.	Mailed 10/26/05
R.	PCT International Search Report for PCT/US04/34949 (Atty docket no. S-19PC), 1 pg.	Mailed 3/28/06
S.	PCT Written Opinion of the International Searching Authority for PCT/US04/34949 (Atty docket no. S-19PC), 3 pgs.	Mailed 3/28/06
T.	Supplementary EP Search Report for EP97932609, 2 pgs	12/19/00
U.	EPO Communication, Supplementary EP Search Report for EP99934236, 3 pgs	Mailed 10/9/01
V.	EPO Communication, Supplementary EP Search Report for EP01935554, 5 pgs	Mailed 2/27/06
W.	EPO Communication, Supplementary EP Search Report for EP03749423, 3 pgs	Mailed 3/21/06

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